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HISTORY OF THE HAMILTON FARMERS'
MARKET

History of the Hamilton Farmers' Market

The Hamilton Farmers' Market was originally founded in 1837, at the corner of York & James Streets. Andrew and Mary Miller transferred a small parcel of land to the President and Board of Police of the Town of Hamilton, to be utilized specifically for a Market. To further encourage prosperity and growth for the Town of Hamilton, he bequeathed a portion of his apple orchard. The Market has always been at the cultural heart of Hamilton.

In August, 1961, the Market was moved into the lower level of a multi-level parking garage in the same area. The Market was a great success following this move and approximately 20,000 customers visited each Market day.

The Market experienced yet another move and has been established in its current location, 55 York Blvd. (next to the Hamilton Public Library), since August 1980. The modern architectural design provides a mezzanine level and lower level, consisting of 176 stands and approximately 85 stallholders.

There are rows of farm fresh produce from sun-ripened tomatoes, fresh picked apples, nuts, dried fruit, bright coloured flowers, lettuce crisp and fresh, the choicest cuts of meats, fish - the finest from the sea, fresh baked goods, tangy cheeses, tropical fruits and even coffee and donuts. Specialty products are also imported from many other countries around the world, such as cheeses, various olives, oils from Italy and many tropical fruits from Jamaica. This excellent product mix is offered each Market Day and attracts regular customers from within Hamilton Wentworth Region, east to Toronto, south to Buffalo and west to London.

The individual and concerted efforts of the stallholders has made the Market a facility that is second to none and one that is certainly enjoyed by our local community and also tourists. The Market also offers a very strong supporting ethnic base, in that many cultures are being represented under one roof. The many cultures being Italian, German, Hungarian, Caribbean, Asian and others. Bus tours to the Market are a regular occurrence all year round from all over Canada and the United States.

Various stallholders work approximately 60-70 hours per week, in order to be ready themselves for business four days a week. The operation is very labour intensive, in that most displays are set up fresh for each day and for those stallholders who are producer based, the demand is much greater.

The Market is currently open to the public Tuesday, Thursday, 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. all year round.

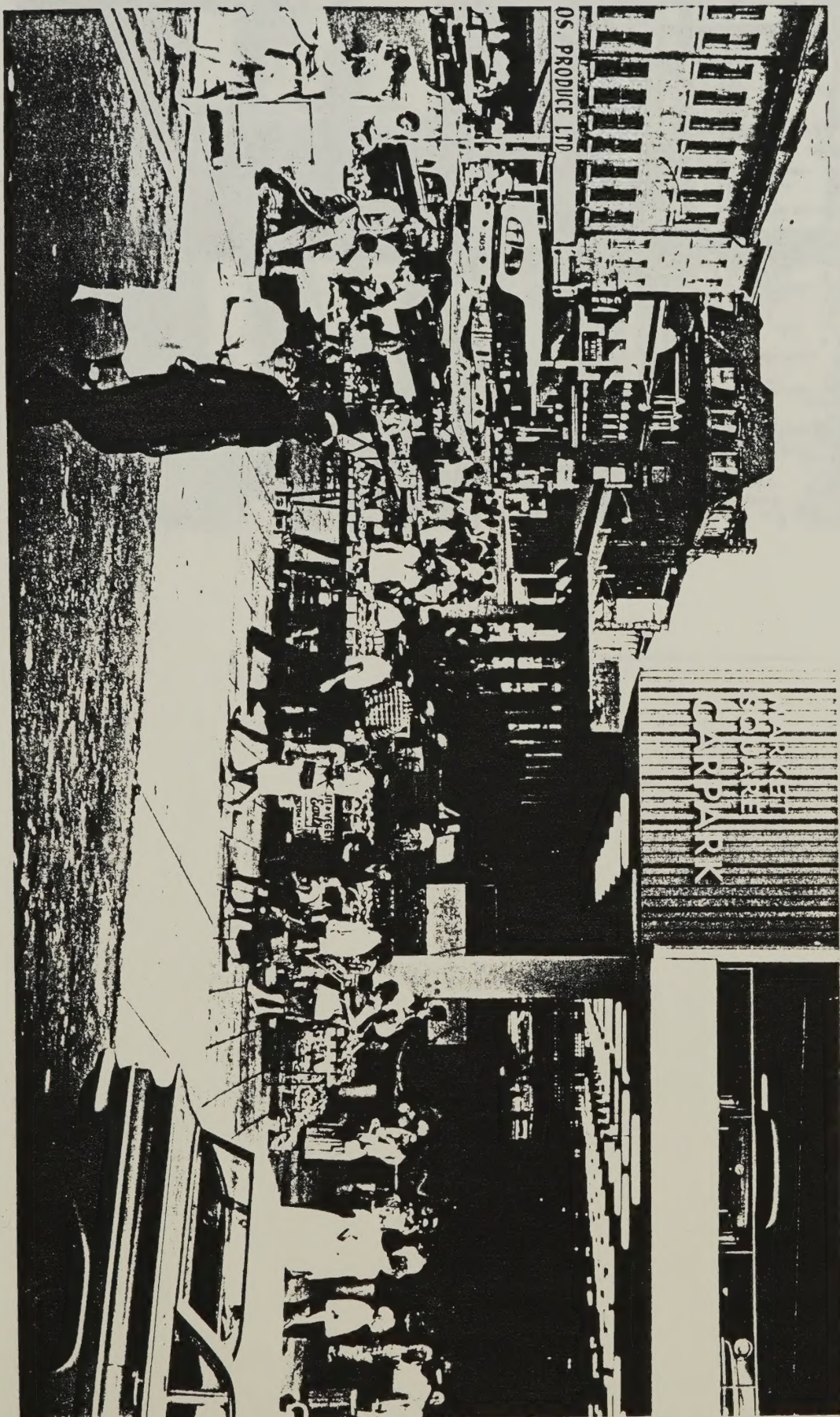
The Hamilton Farmers' Market will always be the crossroads and meeting place for many. The view has changed but the Market remains a remarkable sight!

OVER 150 YEARS OLD AND STILL THE FRESHEST!



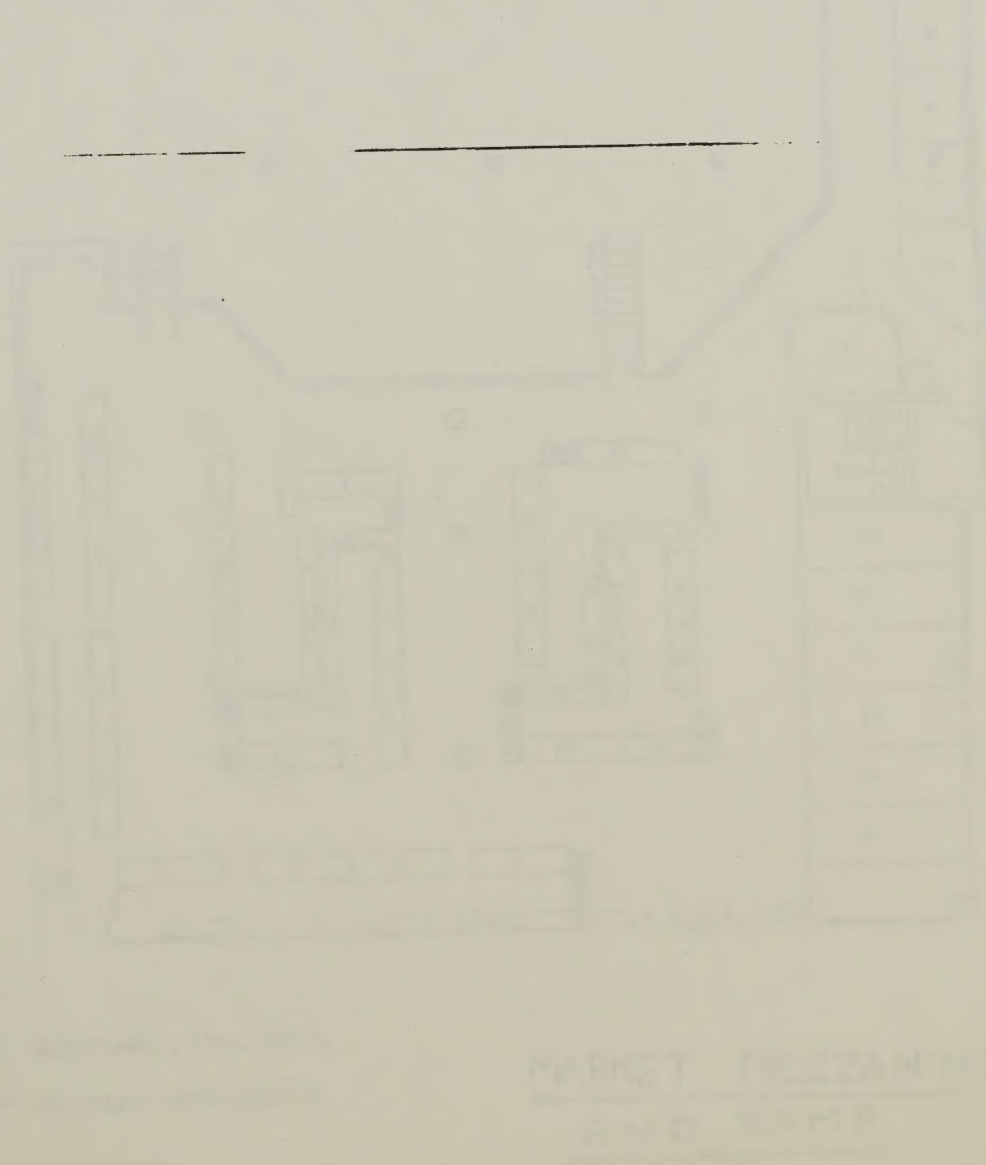
One of the best photos ever taken at the market, showing the Star Theatre, Hilda's Cigar Company and the space between the market building and the Arcade full of farmers' rigs. Photograph by Hamiltonian C. S. Cochran. 1898.

High summer in the new parking garage. August 1967.



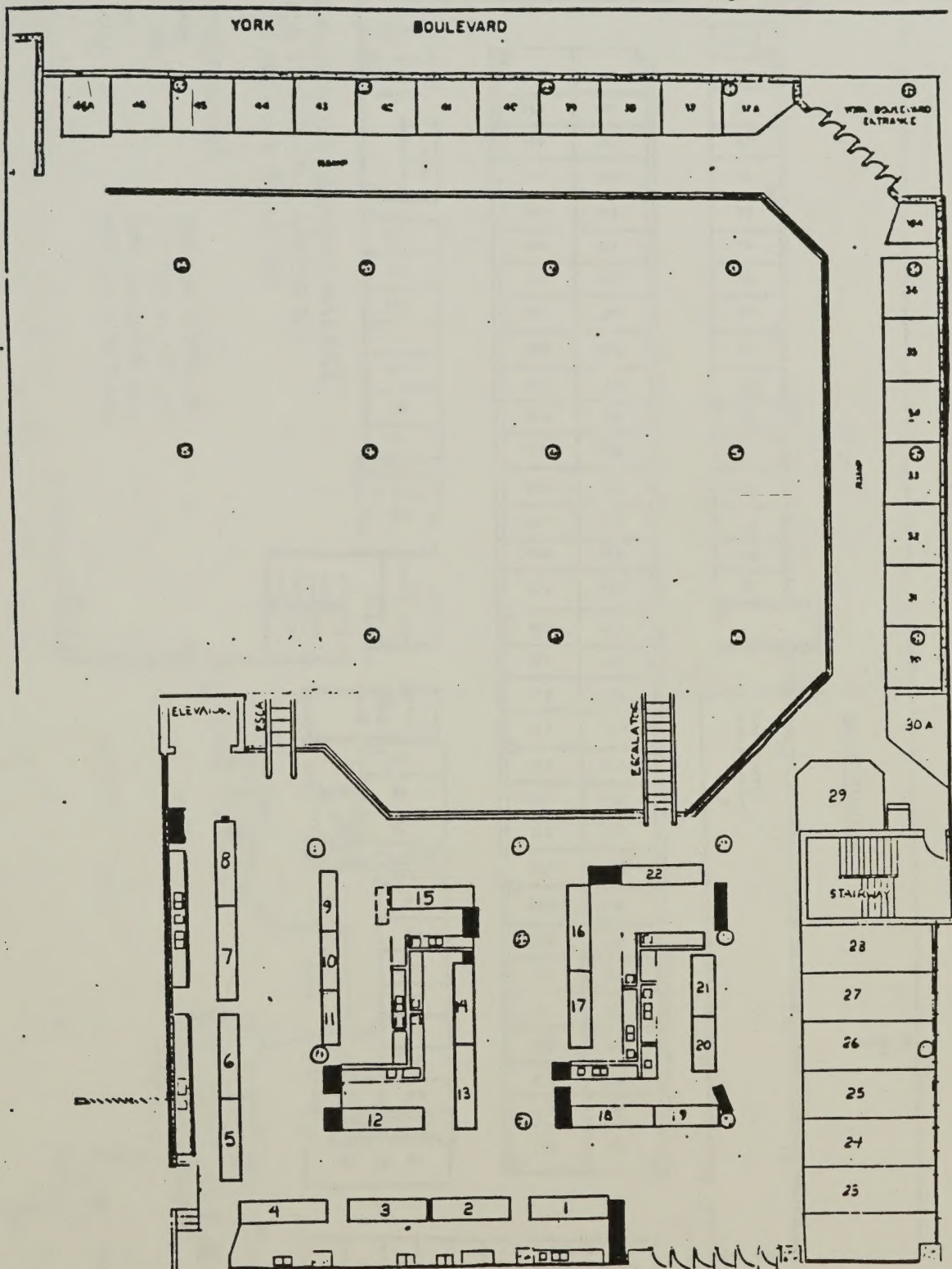
(Tom Bochsler/Neg. 13542c-11)

Current Location - 1996



SCHEDULE "A"

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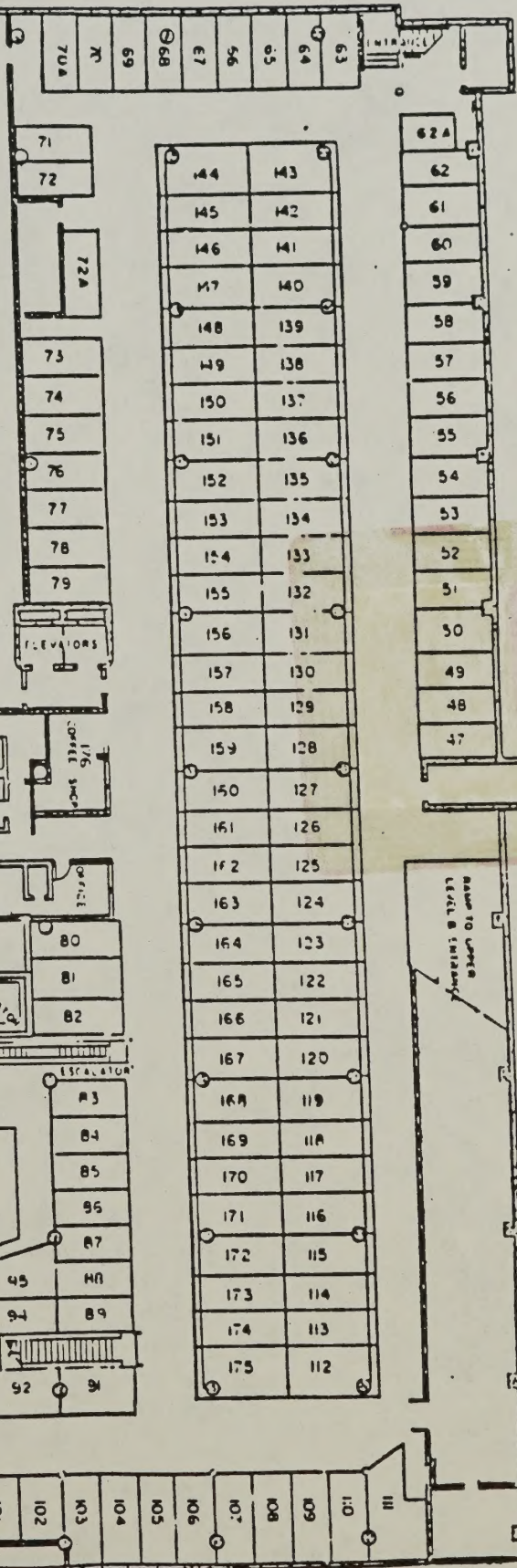


■ - ADDITIONAL INSTALLATIONS
 - - - - - PROPOSED INSTALLATIONS

MARKET MEZZANINE
AND RAMP

YORK

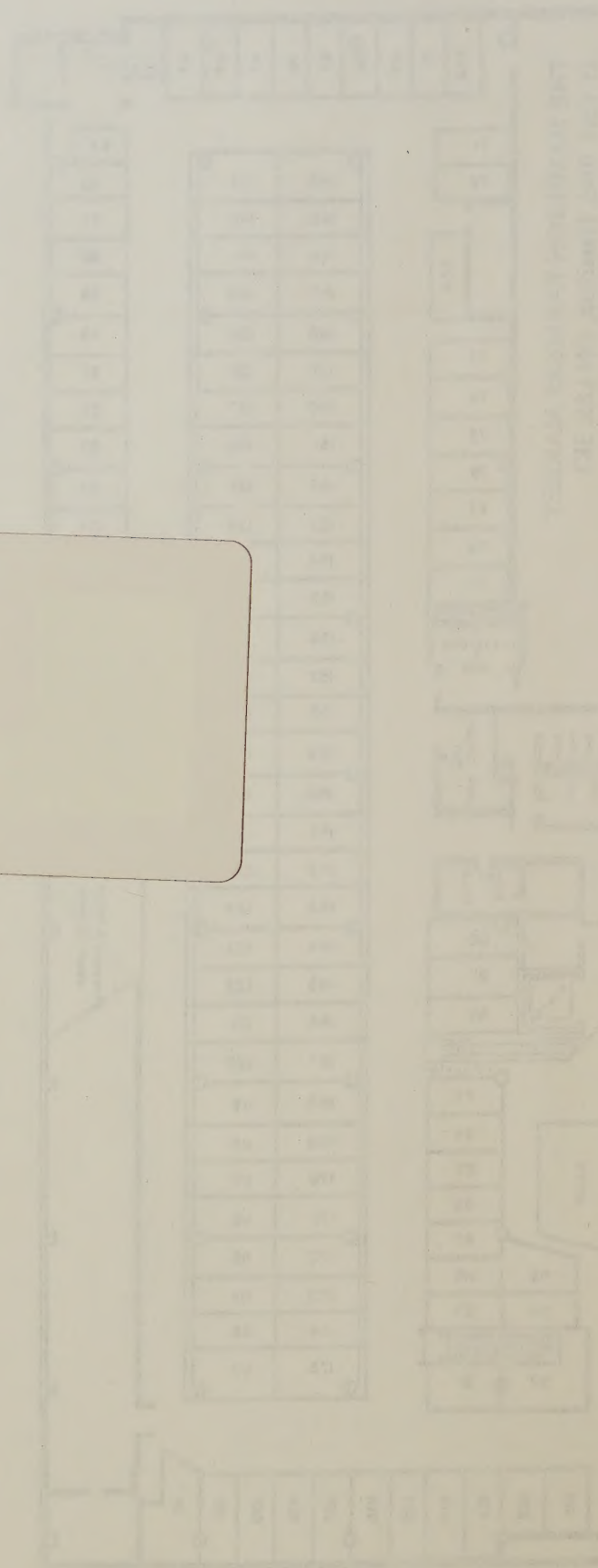
BOULEVARD



THE HAMILTON FARMERS MARKET
55 York Blvd, Hamilton, ON L8R 3K1
905 546 2096 Fax # 905 546 2829

MARKET HOURS
Tuesday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

TRUCK TUNNEL



THIS FLOOR PLAN IS FOR THE BUILDING AT 1000
THE BUILDING IS A 200' X 200' BUILDING
WITH 200 ROOMS AND 200 BATHS

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